Rozgar Yojana, applicants can also directly approach the banks for obtaining loan. These guidelines have been circulated to all the State Governments. The State Government has reported that they have taken steps to improve transparency and provide safeguards under the Scheme.

Performance of KVIC

†3776. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have reviewed performance of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission during the last few years;
- (b) if so, the outcome thereof together with the details of the initiatives already discontinued or the proposed new initiative in this regard; and
- (c) the details of initiative taken or proposed to be taken for improving its performance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) There was a decline in Khadi production during 1999-2000 over 1998-99. However, the production as well as employment has increased in Village Industries during the same period. The production of Khadi and Village Industries both in terms of quantity and Value as well as corresponding employment for the years 1997-98 to 1999-2000 are given below:

[†]Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Year	Quantity (Mill. Sq Mtrs.)	Production (Rs. in crores)			Employment (Figures in lakhs)		
		Khadi	V.I. Value Rs.	Total Rs.	Khadi	V.I.	Total
1997-98	104.20	624.10	3895.21	4519.31	14.01	42.49	56.50
1998-99	98.20	635.89	4476.48	5112.37	13.85	44.44	58.29
1999-00	83.98	551.94	5613.41	6165.35	12.35	46.88	59.23

The Margin Money Scheme has been introducted with effect from 1.4.1995 replacing the Interest Subsidy Scheme in the Village Industries sector. All ongoing programmes of the village industries sector have been merged into the Margin Money Scheme. Under this scheme the margin money @ 25% is given on the cost of the project upto Rs. 10 lakhs and an additional 10% of the project cost above Rs. 10 lakhs but upto Rs. 25 lakhs. Emphasis is being laid on the quality and marketing of products.

Development of SSI in Assam

3777. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Khadi and Village Industries Commission has chalked out any programmes for promotion and development of small scale industries in Assam;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) (a) to (c) The Khadi and Village and Industries Commission (KVIC) is implementing the Margin Money Scheme for setting up rural industries including agro industries all over India including Assam. Under this scheme margin money at the rate of 25% of the cost of the project upto Rs. 10 lakhs and an additional 10% for the cost of the project above Rs. 10 lakhs and upto Rs. 25 lakhs is provided as subsidy to entrepreneurs. However, for the North-Eastern Region the margin money is given